

What is claimed is:

1. A method for driving a plasma display panel,  
comprising:

5       generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted among  
cells constituting a screen in accordance with display  
data as an addressing step;

      applying a voltage pulse train to all cells at the  
same time after the addressing step so as to generate  
10      plural times of display discharge in the cells to be  
lighted in accordance with luminance of a display as a  
sustaining step;

      detecting a ratio of lighting in accordance with  
display data that determine contents of addressing, the  
15      ratio of lighting being a ratio of the number of cells to  
be lighted to the total sum number of cells; and

      changing a waveform of a voltage pulse that is  
applied in the sustaining step for displaying the  
corresponding display data in accordance with the detected  
20      ratio of lighting, so that a gradient of the voltage  
change at a leading edge becomes smaller for a large value  
of the ratio of lighting than for a small value of the  
same.

2. A method for driving a plasma display panel,  
25      comprising:

      generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted among  
cells constituting a screen in accordance with display  
data as an addressing step;

      applying a voltage pulse train to all cells at the  
30      same time after the addressing step so as to generate

plural times of display discharge in the cells to be  
lighted in accordance with luminance of a display as a  
sustaining step;

making a waveform of each voltage pulse of the  
5 voltage pulse train have a step-like change of voltage at  
a leading edge;

detecting a ratio of lighting in accordance with  
display data that determine contents of addressing, the  
ratio of lighting being a ratio of the number of cells to  
10 be lighted to the total sum number of cells; and

changing a time for the voltage change at the  
leading edge of the voltage pulse applied in the  
sustaining step for displaying the corresponding display  
data in accordance with the detected ratio of lighting, so  
15 that the time becomes longer for a large value of the  
ratio of lighting than for a small value of the same.

3. A device for driving a plasma display panel,  
comprising:

means for generating wall voltage in cells to be  
20 lighted among cells constituting a screen in accordance  
with display data as an addressing step;

means for applying a voltage pulse train to all  
cells at the same time after the addressing step so as to  
generate plural times of display discharge in the cells to  
25 be lighted in accordance with luminance of a display as a  
sustaining step;

a lighting ratio detection circuit for detecting a  
ratio of lighting in accordance with display data that  
determine contents of addressing, the ratio of lighting  
30 being a ratio of the number of cells to be lighted to the

total sum number of cells; and

a controller for changing a waveform of a voltage pulse that is applied in the sustaining step for displaying the corresponding display data in accordance with the detected ratio of lighting, so that a gradient of the voltage change at a leading edge becomes smaller for a large value of the ratio of lighting than for a small value of the same.

4. A device for driving a plasma display panel, comprising:

means for generating wall voltage in cells to be lighted among cells constituting a screen in accordance with display data as an addressing step;

means for applying a voltage pulse train to all cells after the addressing step so as to generate plural times of display discharge in the cells to be lighted in accordance with luminance of a display as a sustaining step;

a lighting ratio detection circuit for detecting a ratio of lighting for each of plural blocks constituting the screen in accordance with display data that determine contents of addressing, the ratio of lighting being a ratio of the number of cells to be lighted to the total sum number of cells in each of the blocks; and

a controller for changing a waveform of a voltage pulse that is applied to cells of each of the blocks in the sustaining step for displaying the corresponding display data in accordance with the detected ratio of lighting in each of the blocks, so that a gradient of the voltage change at a leading edge becomes smaller for a

large value of the ratio of lighting than for a small value of the same.